Provision of Rain Water Harvesting and/or waste water recycling has been kept in all the buildings proposed to be taken up in the future wherever it is required or it is technically feasible.

Development of water and sewage disposal system in cities

†783. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal for solving the problem of potable water, sewage system and solid waste in selected three hundred towns of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of towns of Bihar incuded in this scheme; and

(d) by when, this scheme would be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) There is a proposal to set up National Urban Renewal Mission (NURM) for select cities and an omnibus scheme, namely Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) for other cities to provide reform-linked assistance for development of infrastructure including water supply, sewerage and solid waste management. Details of the aforesaid schemes have not been finalized.

(c) and (d) The number of towns of Bihar to be included will be known only after approval of the schemes. The schemes are likely to be introduced during the current financial year.

Planned development of cities

†784. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the research studies revealed that India is advancing to be a developed nation and an economic superpower;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that despite the planned efforts to develop world class cities, no city has so far become as such;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, in the era of consumer culture whether there is any scheme to develop the cities of the country like Bangkok, Singapore, Kualalumpur, Dubai, Hong Kong etc.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) This Ministry is not aware of the research studies that indicate India is advancing to be a developed nation and an economic superpower.

(b) to (d) Urban Development is a State subject. It is, therefore, for the States to take necessary action. This Ministry, however, provides assistance to States by way of guidelines for preparation of perspective plans, development plans and projects and schemes, as well as measures for financing urban infrastructure; Central assistance for development of infrastrcuture through Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.*, Integrated Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, Mega City Scheme and Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme.

There is also a proposal to set up National Urban Renewal Mission (NURM) for select cities and Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) for other cities to provide reform-linked Central assistance for development of infrastructure. On-going Centrally Sponsored Schemes *viz.* Integrated Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns, Mega City Scheme, Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme are proposed to be subsumed in the proposed NURM.

Improvement of urban infrastructure in Kerala

785. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish an urban Study Centre in Kerala and to improve urban infrastructure in selected placed of Kerala during 2005;

(b) if so, the present status thereof including the estimated expenditure and the period of completion of the project and the places suggested/ selected for the project;

(c) whether there is a proposal for initiating an "Urban Fund" as a part of the above project; and